

# Curriculum Vitae for Dr. Robert Lester Jones

## Founder and Director of The Aquarium Vet



Date of Birth July 22<sup>nd</sup>.,1956

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## Education

Bachelor Veterinary Science (Honours) Melbourne University, December 1977

Member of Australian College of Veterinary Scientists in Canine Medicine by examination in 1986.

Accreditation Program for Australian Veterinarians - 2003

AQIS Accredited Veterinarian for the Preparation and Inspection of Companion Animals for Export - 2003.

Masters in Aquaculture – completed November 2004 – Deakin University, Warrnambool.

Quarantine Approved Premises for Acc. Persons (valid until 09/2021)

Member of Australian College of Veterinary Scientists in Aquatic Animal Health by examination in 2008.

Croc College 2013

Aquavet II – Cornell University 2014

## **Employment**

My business (The Aquarium Vet Pty Ltd) acts as a consultant to several organizations including the following:

**Merlin Entertainments Group** – Regional Veterinarian for SEA LIFE Aquariums in the Australia and NZ region commenced January 2014; and Asia in 2018.

**Sea Life Melbourne Aquarium** – Veterinarian from October 1999 (pre-opening in Jan 2000) until present.

**Aquarium Industries Pty Ltd** – largest importer of ornamental fish onto Australia. Consultant Veterinarian since April 2008. Largest fish quarantine station in the world. Attend regularly to supervise and improve their fish health program.

**Monash University** – monitor the health of their Zebrafish house (largest in the Southern Hemisphere). Multiple visits each year.

**Panaquatic Health Solutions Pty Ltd** (Dr. Paul Hardy-Smith) – 2005 until present.

- completed a “Review of Existing Welfare Arrangements for Aquatic Animals in Australia” as part of the Australian Animal Welfare Strategy for the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- have organized and conducted three workshops on fish welfare (one each for the Ornamental, Aquaculture and Commercial Wild Capture Fishery industries).
- completed a “Scientific Review of the Biosecurity Risks associated with the importation of rainbowfish for ornamental purposes” for Biosecurity Australia
- assistant author for the reviewing two AQUAVETPLAN manuals

As The Aquarium Vet and with Craig Thorburn (Thorburn Consultants) completed a “Policy review of the biosecurity risks associated with the importation of live penguins for display purposes” for Biosecurity Australia.

As The Aquarium Vet completed a “Policy review of the biosecurity risks associated with the importation of sand tiger sharks into New Zealand” for Biosecurity New Zealand and then was invited to Kelly Tarlton’s Underwater World (Auckland, New Zealand) to supervise the arrival and acclimation process.

Consultant to various Aquarium retailers, fish breeders.

At various stages have consulted to Underwater World (Mooloolaba, Queensland), Sea World (Gold Coast, Queensland), Siam Ocean World (Bangkok, Thailand) and Aquarium of West Australia (AQWA, Perth, West Australia), Cairns Aquarium.

Writing and managing The Aquarium Vet online e-quarist Course. Provide webinars on fish health to all students of the course both nationally and internationally (three time zones a month). The course was launched in May 2011.

## **Professional Organizations / Committees**

- Australian Veterinary Association (AVA)
- Grey Nurse Shark Reproduction Group (Foundation member – joint co-operative between Oceanis Australia / Melbourne Aquarium and Monash Institute of Reproduction and Development)
- International Association of Aquatic Animal Medicine (IAAAM)
- Senior Fellow in the Faculty of Veterinary Science, Melbourne University
- Pet Industry Association of Australia (PIAA) – Director on the Board (2011 – 2017). President 2015 – 2017.
- Zoo and Aquarium Association (ZAA)
- World Aquatic Veterinary Medical Association (WAVMA) - Director on the Board (2014)
- Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA); Veterinary Adviser for the Marine Fish TAG.

## **Conferences attended**

World Aquaculture Conference – Sydney, Australia 1999.

“Aquaculture and Aquatic Animal Health” – May 2002 Sydney University Post-Graduate Committee in Veterinary Science.

“Advanced Fish Medicine” March 2003 – University of Florida, USA.

Australian Veterinary Association 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007

Fish Histopathology Program – University of Tasmania, December 2007.

ARAZPA 2009

IAAAM 2010, 2014, 2018

International Aquarium Congress 2012, 2016, 2019

Second Elasmobranch Husbandry Symposium (Monterey Bay, USA) 2013

Association of Zoos and Aquariums 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

Regional Aquatics Workshop (held in USA) 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

## **Lectures given**

AVA conference – May 2000 – Melbourne “Role of the Veterinarian in a Public Aquarium”

“Fish Week” – present a lecture each year to the Veterinary students at Melbourne University on my work at Melbourne Aquarium.

RSPCA Scientific Seminar – February 2004 – keynote speaker on Aquatic Animal Welfare.

Science Technician’s Annual Conference, Monash University, November 2005 – keynote speaker on my role at Melbourne Aquarium

AVA conference – May 2006 – Hobart “A Smiling Shark is a Happy Shark – and it’s my job to keep them that way”

ARAZPA March 2009 – ‘Assisted Reproduction Techniques in Elasmobranchs’

IAAAM May 2010 – ‘Assisted Reproduction Techniques in Elasmobranchs’

PIAA Pet Expo – Sydney 2011 – gave 4 lectures on fish health

Australian Zebrafish Husbandry Symposium (Melbourne) – February 2012

AVA Unusual and Exotic Pets Conference - September 2012

PIAA Pet Expo – Brisbane 2012 – gave 4 lectures on fish health

World Aquatic Veterinary Medical Association (WAVMA) presented two webinars (December 2012 and February 2013)

Australian Zebrafish Husbandry Symposium (Dunedin, New Zealand) – February 2013

Regional Aquatics Workshop (RAW), Georgia Aquarium (USA) April 2013 and 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

Melbourne University Veterinary students Fish Health evening, October 2013

PIAA Pet Expo – Melbourne 2013 – gave 3 lectures on fish health

Second Elasmobranch Husbandry Symposium (Monterey Bay, USA) 2013 – presented on artificial reproduction techniques

IAAAM – Gold Coast Australia 2014

Association of Zoos and Aquariums 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

Aquatic Medicine Seminar 2016 held at Shark Reef Aquarium, Mandalay Bay Las Vegas on “Caring for our Fish (Stress and its Effects, Fish Welfare and Pain)” and “Elasmobranch Reproduction”

## **Published Papers / Books**

Chapter 35 “The Use of Reproductive Technologies in Breeding Programs for Elasmobranchs in Aquaria” Daly J and Jones R in Elasmobranch Husbandry Manual II by Smith *et al.* (2017).

Huveneers C, Klebe S, Fox A, Bruce B, Robbins R, Borucinska J D , Jones R and Michael MZ 2016, First histological examination of a neoplastic lesion from a free-swimming white shark, *Carcharodon carcharias* L. *Journal of Fish Diseases* (doi:10.1111/jfd.12458)

Chapter 6 “Veterinary care of venomous reptiles” Authors - Haberfield J, Martelli P, Johnson R, Barten S, Gillett A, Lock B, Jones R, Simpson S, Jackson TNW, Cochran C, Dunstan N, Sunagar K, Fry BG. In *Venomous Reptiles and their Toxins: Evolution, Pathophysiology And Biodiscovery*, Editor Bryan Fry, Oxford University Press, 2015

Ultrasound Examination and Behaviour Scoring of Captive Broadnose Sevengill Sharks, *Notorynchus cepedianus* (Peron, 1807), *Zoo Biology* 26:1–13 (2007) Daly J, Gunn I, Kirby N, Jones R and Galloway D.

Three other papers currently in press.

## **Media appearances**

“The Bondi Vet” in 2014

“Totally Wild” and “Talk to the Animals” - many guest appearances / stories.

ABC TV Show with George Negus.

OceanZoo documentary series

Many Radio interviews / talkback sessions including 3 months in early 2012 as The Aquarium Vet on “Talking Pets” – networked across Australia.

Half day Media training with Quotable Communications Pty Ltd in February 2008.